

What They Do

Validation Technicians create test procedures and standards to make sure biotechnology products are manufactured in accordance with regulatory standards and company specifications. They collect and analyze data, prepare reports, and recommend improvements in the manufacturing process. Validation Technicians use a computer to maintain validation lab records and data files.

Technicians working in pharmaceutical settings require knowledge of sterilization principles, good manufacturing processes (GMPs), and Food and Drug Administration regulations. Some Validation Technicians help resolve manufacturing difficulties and design technical solutions.

*Validation Technicians in the biotech industry share characteristics of Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers. Detailed descriptions of these occupations may be found in the Occupational Information Network (O*NET) at online.onetcenter.org.*

Important skills, knowledge, and abilities include:

- ▶ Production and Processing – Knowledge of raw materials, production processes, quality control, costs, and other techniques for maximizing the effective manufacture and distribution of goods.
- ▶ Quality Control Analysis – Conducting tests and inspections of products, services, or processes to evaluate quality or performance.
- ▶ Operation Monitoring – Watching gauges, dials, or other indicators to make sure a machine is working properly.
- ▶ Near Vision – The ability to see details at close range (within a few feet of the observer).
- ▶ Category Flexibility – The ability to generate or use different sets of rules for combining or grouping things in different ways.
- ▶ Visual Color Discrimination – The ability to match or detect differences between colors, including shades of color and brightness.
- ▶ Perceptual Speed – The ability to quickly and accurately compare similarities and differences among sets of letters, numbers, objects, pictures, or patterns. The things to be compared may be presented at the same time or one after the other. This ability also includes comparing a presented object with a remembered object.

Training/Requirements

- ▶ Associate or bachelor's degree in biotechnical or related health sciences field.
- ▶ Bachelor degree required in Chemistry, Biology, or Engineering for supervisory or management positions.

Validation Technicians

Biotechnology Careers

What's the California Job Outlook?

While the Bureau of Labor Statistics does not collect data on Validation Technicians, the occupations listed below are found in the biotechnology industry and have similar duties. The California outlook and wages figures are drawn from all industries and represent an occupation comparable to Validation Technicians.

Standard Occupational Classification	Estimated Number of Workers 2002	Estimated Number of Workers 2012	Average Annual Openings	2005 Wage Range Per Hour
Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers				
51-9061	57,400	62,700	1,840	\$9.14 to \$18.28

These figures do not include self-employment.

Average annual openings include new jobs plus openings due to separations.

Source: www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov, Employment Projections by Occupation and OES Employment & Wages by Occupation, Labor Market Information Division, Employment Development Department.

Additional Sources of Information

Institute of Validation Technology
(800) 276-4242
www.ivthome.com

Occupational Information Network (O*NET)
<http://online.onetcenter.org>